

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A deck of a tape recorder comprising:
a deck chassis; a tape cassette housing; and
a locking device for the tape cassette housing of the tape recorder, which comprises:
a locking lever connected to the tape cassette housing when the tape cassette housing is both received in and removed from the deck chassis;
a locking recess formed within the locking lever; and
a locking protrusion, comprising at least one edge formed at an outer surface such that the at least one edge comes into contact with a corner of the locking recess when the tape cassette housing is locked onto the deck chassis.
2. (currently amended) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim 1, wherein the at least one edge of the locking protrusion ~~comprises cutting and bending a part of~~ is integrally formed as one piece with the deck chassis toward an interior of the deck chassis.
3. (original) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim 2, wherein the at least one edge of the locking protrusion further comprises:
a top end of the locking protrusion bent at or about 90° toward the interior of the deck chassis.
4. (original) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim 2, wherein the at least one edge of the locking protrusion further comprises:
a side end of the locking protrusion bent at or about 90° toward the interior of the deck chassis.

5. (currently amended) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim 2, wherein the locking recess comprises:

a the corner being adapted to come into contact with the at least one edge of the locking protrusion and then to mate with the locking recess with the locking protrusion thereby locking the tape cassette housing.

6. (original) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim 1, wherein:

the locking lever comprises an unlocking protrusion; and

the deck chassis comprises an unlocking switch and an unlocking lever, the combination of the unlocking protrusion, unlocking switch and unlocking lever are adapted to release the tape cassette housing after it is locked by sliding the unlocking switch to move the unlocking lever, which contacts the unlocking protrusion which contacts and causes the locking lever to rotate and unlock from a locked condition by releasing the locking protrusion from the locking recess.

7. (original) The deck of a tape recorder according to claim 1, wherein:

the locking lever further is adapted to pivot within a range determined by a regulating protrusion and a second hinge, and hinged to a side of the tape cassette housing by a first hinge, and connected to a first link member by a resilient member, the resilient member adapted to allow the tape cassette housing to resiliently ascend and descend within the deck chassis.

8. (currently amended) A ~~locking lever adapted for use with a locking device for~~ of a tape cassette housing of a tape recorder, wherein the locking lever comprises

a locking recess formed within the a locking lever, the locking lever being connected to the tape cassette housing when the tape cassette housing is both received in and removed from the tape recorder; and

a locking protrusion, comprising at least one edge formed at an outer surface such that the at least one edge comes into contact with a corner of the locking recess when the tape cassette housing is locked onto a deck chassis.

9. (currently amended) The locking ~~lever~~ device according to claim 8, wherein the locking protrusion comprises:

the at least one edge being integrally formed as one piece with, ~~formed by cutting and bending a part of the deck chassis toward an interior of the deck chassis.~~

10. (currently amended) The locking ~~lever~~ device according to claim 8, wherein the locking recess comprises:

a the corner being adapted to come into contact with the at least one edge and then to mate with the locking recess with the locking protrusion thereby locking the tape cassette housing.

11. (currently amended) The locking ~~lever~~ device according to claim 8 further comprising:

an unlocking protrusion; and

wherein the deck chassis comprises an unlocking switch and an unlocking lever, the combination of the unlocking protrusion, unlocking switch and unlocking lever are adapted to release the tape cassette housing after it is locked by sliding the unlocking switch to move the unlocking lever, which contacts the unlocking protrusion which contacts and causes the locking lever to rotate and unlock from a locked condition by releasing the locking protrusion from the locking recess.

12. (currently amended) The locking ~~lever~~ device according to claim 8 adapted to pivot within a range determined by a regulating protrusion and a second hinge, and hinged to a side of the tape cassette housing by a first hinge, and connected to a first link member by a

resilient member, the resilient member adapted to allow the tape cassette housing to resiliently ascend and descend within the deck chassis.

13. canceled

14. (currently amended) A locking device for a tape cassette housing of a tape recorder comprising:

a locking lever connected to the tape cassette housing when the tape cassette housing is both received in and removed from the deck chassis;
a locking recess formed within the locking lever; and
a locking protrusion, comprising at least one edge formed at an outer surface such that the at least one edge comes into contact with a corner of the locking recess when the tape cassette housing is locked onto a deck chassis.

15. (currently amended) The locking device according to claim 14, wherein the at least one edge of the locking protrusion ~~comprises cutting and bending a part of~~ is integrally formed as one piece with the ~~the deck chassis toward an interior of the deck chassis.~~

16. (original) The locking device according to claim 15, wherein the at least one edge of the locking protrusion further comprises:

a top end of the locking protrusion bent at or about 90° toward the interior of the deck chassis.

17. (original) The locking device according to claim 15, wherein the at least one edge of the locking protrusion further comprises:

a side end of the locking protrusion bent at or about 90° toward the interior of the deck chassis.

18. (currently amended) The locking device according to claim 15, wherein the locking recess comprises:

a the corner being adapted to ~~come into~~ contact with the at least one edge of the locking protrusion ~~and then to mate with~~ the locking recess with the locking protrusion thereby locking the tape cassette housing.

19. (original) The locking device according to claim 14, wherein:
the locking lever comprises an unlocking protrusion; and
the deck chassis comprises an unlocking switch and an unlocking lever, the combination of the unlocking protrusion, unlocking switch and unlocking lever are adapted to release the tape cassette housing after it is locked by sliding the unlocking switch to move the unlocking lever, which contacts the unlocking protrusion which contacts and causes the locking lever to rotate and unlock from a locked condition by releasing the locking protrusion from the locking recess.

20. (original) The locking device according to claim 14 wherein:
the locking lever is adapted to pivot within a range determined by a regulating protrusion and a second hinge, and hinged to a side of the tape cassette housing by a first hinge, and connected to a first link member by a resilient member, the resilient member adapted to allow the tape cassette housing to resiliently ascend and descend within the deck chassis.